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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/677,236	10/03/2003	Shigemi Kurashima	1614.1365	4299

21171 7590 10/04/2006

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EXAMINER

FATAHIYAR, MAHMOUD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2629

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/677,236

Applicant(s)

KURASHIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Mike Fatahiyar

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/3/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, 12-13, 16-18, 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rosenberg et al(6,429,846b2).

Rosenberg et al disclose a method and apparatus for driving a touch panel haptic input device(16) comprising a current conducting element and a magnetic field application(i.e., voice coil actuators 54) disposed in the peripheral region of the touch panel(16), a contact detection unit and a driving unit(column 4, lines 6-43; column 6, lines 24-46; column 8, lines 10-67) which all function as claimed.

In claims 6, 8, 18 and 20, as to the limitations “predetermined frequency” and “changeable frequency”, such are also shown to be old by Rosenberg et al(column 7, lines 50-67; column 11, lines 60-67; column 14, lines 42-53).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-3, 7, 14-15, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenberg et al in view of Yoshikawa et al(20030067449A1).

Rosenberg et al is discussed above. Yoshikawa et al is cited to show that the concept of utilizing a rectangular coil(12a), which is driven with a modulated voltage at audible frequency range, is fixed in a region corresponding to the peripheral region of a touch input device. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Rosenberg et al with the noted teaching of Yoshikawa et al such that to provide a rectangular coil which is driven at audible frequency range fixed in the peripheral region of the of its touch input device because both references are related to haptic feedback touch input pad devices.

5. Claims 10 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenberg et al in view of Henderson et al(6,011,545).

Rosenberg et al is discussed above. Henderson et al is cited to show that the concept of rotating a touch panel relative to a predetermined center is old(column 6, lines 27-54; figures 3-5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art modify the system of Rosenberg et al with the noted teaching of Henderson et al such that the touch panel(16) would be swingable relative a predetermined center because both references are related to touch input devices further because the rotatable function of the touch panel has no bearing on the overall functionality of the system.

6. Claims 11 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenberg et al in view of Taguchi et al(4,845478).

Rosenberg et al is discussed above. Taguchi et al is cited to show that the concept of utilizing a first and a second permanent magnet wherein the magnetic poles of the first permanent magnet are arranged to be opposite to respective magnetic poles of the second permanent magnet in a touch input device is old(see figures 1 and 3). Therefor, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Rosenberg et al with the noted teachings of Taguchi et al such that to provide a first and a second permanent magnets wherein their poles arranged to be opposite to each other and disposed at a peripheral location of the touch panel because both references are related to a touch panel utilizing coil and magnet in a touch panel for generating a vibration feedback.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Fatahiyar whose telephone number is (571)272-7688. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 to 6:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on 571-272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
SEP 29 2006

M. Fatahiyar *MF*

September 29, 2006